

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Pending Claims:

Claims 1-10 (Canceled)

11. (currently amended): An apparatus for maintaining control of power in a spread-spectrum system, comprising:

(a) a base station (BS); and

(b) a subscriber unit (SU), for sending to the base station (BS), using spread-spectrum modulation, a SU-spreading code on a status channel, wherein:

(i) the BS detects the SU-spreading code from the SU, and sends to the SU, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, a BS-spreading code on a checkup channel; and

(ii) the SU detects the BS-spreading code on the checkup channel, and in response to detecting the BS-spreading code, the SU transmits a message longer than the SU-spreading code ~~which includes the SU-spreading code~~, and in response to not detecting the BS-spreading code, the SU increases transmit power of the SU.

12. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the SU periodically sends to the BS, using spread-spectrum modulation, the SU-spreading code, having a symbol length, on the status channel.

13. (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the BS sends to the SU, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, the BS-spreading code having a symbol length on the checkup channel.

14. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the SU periodically sends to the BS, using spread-spectrum modulation, the SU-spreading code, having a symbol length, on the status channel, and the BS sends to the SU, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, the BS-spreading code having a symbol length on the checkup channel.

15. (currently amended): An apparatus for maintaining control of power in a spread-spectrum system, comprising:

(a) base means; and

(b) subscriber means, for sending to the base means using spread-spectrum modulation, a ~~SU-spreading~~ first spreading code on a status channel, wherein:

(i) the base means detects the ~~SU-spreading~~ first spreading code from the subscriber means, and sends to the subscriber means, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the ~~SU-spreading~~ first spreading code, a ~~BS-spreading~~ second spreading code on a checkup channel; and

(ii) the subscriber means detects the ~~BS-spreading~~ second spreading code on the checkup channel, and in response to detecting ~~BS-spreading~~ the second spreading code, the subscriber means transmits a message longer than the first spreading ~~SU-spreading~~ code, at a transmit power based on the detected first spreading code's transmit power ~~which includes the SU-spreading code~~, and in

response to not detecting the ~~BS-spreading~~ second spreading code, the subscriber means increases transmit power of the subscriber means.

16. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the subscriber means periodically sends to the base means, using spread-spectrum modulation, the ~~SU-spreading~~ first spreading code, having a symbol length, on the status channel.

17. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the base means sends to the subscriber means, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the ~~SU-spreading~~ first spreading code, the ~~BS-spreading~~ second spreading code having a symbol length on the checkup channel.

18. (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the subscriber means periodically sends to the base means, using spread-spectrum modulation, the ~~SU-spreading~~ first spreading code, having a symbol length, on the status channel, and the base means sends to the subscriber means, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the ~~SU-spreading~~ first spreading code, the ~~BS-spreading~~ second spreading code having a symbol length on the checkup channel.

19. (currently amended): An apparatus for maintaining control of power in a spread-spectrum system, comprising:

- (a) a base station (BS); and
- (b) a subscriber unit (SU) for sending to the BS, using spread-spectrum modulation, a SU-spreading code on a status channel, wherein:

(i) the BS detects the SU-spreading code from the SU, and sends to the SU, using spread-spectrum modulation, in response to detecting the SU-spreading code, a BS-spreading code on a checkup channel; and

(ii) the SU detects the BS-spreading code on the checkup channel, and in response to detecting the BS-spreading code, the SU transmits a message longer than the SU-spreading code, at a higher transmit power with respect to the detected SU-spreading code's transmit power ~~which includes the SU spreading code~~, and in response to not detecting the BS-spreading code, the SU increases transmit power of the SU.